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DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY UNITED STATES ARMY LEGAL SERVICES AGENCY 9275 GUNSTON ROAD FORT BELVOIR, VIRGINA 22060-5546



REPLY TO ATTENTION OF Regulatory Law Office January 29, 2013

Subject: In The Matter Of The Tucson Electric Power Company Application For Approval Of Its 2013 Renewable Energy Standard Tariff Implementation Plan.

Arizona Corporation Commission Docket No. E-01933A-12-0296.

VIA FEDERAL EXPRESS

Chairman Pierce and Commissioners ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION 1200 West Washington Street Phoenix, Arizona 85007-2927

Dear Commissioners:

Please accept this correspondence as undersigned counsel's notification of addition of counsel on behalf of the United States Department of Defense and all other Federal Executive Agencies ("DoD/FEA") in the above referenced matter, and my request to be served with any and all future filings in this matter.

It is my understanding that Arizona Corporation Commission Staff ("Staff") has requested that a separate hearing be held litigate the "Track and Record" proposal in this matter regarding renewable energy credits. We believe separation of this issue from the instant matter is appropriate, and request to have all filings and correspondence related to any separate hearing provided to me.

As has been stated by other DoD/FEA entities in comment letters filed recently with the Arizona Corporation Commission, the implementation of the "Track and Record" proposal will significantly negatively impact DoD/FEA and its efforts to implement its own strong renewable energy policies. *See* Department of Defense, Regional Environmental Coordinator, January 17, 2013 and Department of Veterans Affairs, Office of Asset Enterprise Management, November 26, 2012 Comment Letters attached hereto. A separate hearing should be held to allow sufficient focus on the issues involved and allow the creation of a proper record, so that a reasonable, fair, and equitable result to all interested parties is achieved.

Thank you in advance for your attention to these important issues. Please call if there are any problems with this request or if any further action is needed. I can be reached at (703) 693-1274 or by E-mail at kyle.j.smith124.civ@mail.mil.

Arizona Corporation Commission

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Page 1 of 2

Regards,

Kyle J. Smith

General Attorney
Regulatory Law Office (JALS-RL/IP)
Office of the Judge Advocate General
U. S. Army Legal Services Agency 9275 Gunston Road

Fort Belvoir, VA 22060-5546

Enclosure

Cc: See Service List Cynthia J. Cordova C.L. Stathos

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OPEN MEETING AGENDA ITI



DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

REGIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL COORDINATO.

937 N. Harbor Drive, Box 81 San Diego, California 92132-0058

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Chairman Pierce and Commissioners State of Arizona Corporation Commission 1200 West Washington Street Phoenix, AZ 85007

Subject: COMMENT LETTER - MATTER OF THE TUCSON ELECTRIC POWER COMPANY APPLICATION FOR APPROVAL OF ITS 2013 RENEWABLE ENERGY STANDARD TARIFF IMPLEMENTATION PLAN (DOCKET No. E-01933A-12-0296)

On behalf of the Department of Defense (DoD) Regional Environmental Coordinator for EPA Region 9, and the Military Services in Arizona, I respectfully submit these comments on Tucson Electric Power's (TEP) application for approval of its 2013 Renewable Energy Standard Tariff (REST) Implementation Plan.

Energy security is critical to our national security. Renewable energy, when combined with smart micro-grid and storage technologies, can significantly enhance the energy security and reduce the energy costs at DoD installations. addition, DoD has numerous Congressional and Executive mandates and goals for producing or procuring renewable energy (EPAct 2005, National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) of 2007, and EO 13423). DoD in Arizona has developed or is in the process of developing renewable energy projects on their installations and in some cases considering utility scale size projects (>10MW). The ability to count the renewable energy credits (RECs) towards compliance with these mandates and goals, is an important element of these utility scale renewable energy projects. Also, RECs play a significant role in the financial viability of the project and the ability to attract private developers and project funding.

The DoD respectfully requests that the Arizona Corporation Commission (ACC) reject the ACC Utility Division staff's recommendation to approve the "Track and Record" proposal that was requested by Arizona Public Service (APS) in its Renewable Energy Standard (RES) Implementation Plan (Docket No. E-01345A-12-0290) and recommended for inclusion in Tucson Electric Afformention Design Refrewable Energy Standard and Tariff (REST) (Docket NO (F-04 1334-12-0296). The "Track and Record" proposal allows

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Subject: COMMENT LETTER - MATTER OF THE TUCSON ELECTRIC POWER COMPANY APPLICATION FOR APPROVAL OF ITS 2013 RENEWABLE ENERGY STANDARD TARIFF IMPLEMENTATION PLAN (DOCKET No. E-01933A-12-0296)

TEP to count towards their distributed energy (DE) requirements, any new DE installation interconnected within its service territory, independent of REC ownership (emphasis added). Allowing TEP to meet its RPS distributed energy requirements using "Track and Record" may be considered as double counting of RECs.

The Department of Energy's (DoE) "Renewable Energy Requirement Guidance for EPAct 2005 and Executive Order 13423" precludes a federal agency from using double counted RECs toward compliance with EPAct 2005 and E013423 requirements. The double counting definition includes the situation where the renewable energy counted toward the agency's goal is also used to meet a renewable portfolio standard or other federal, state, or local regulatory requirement. (See DoE Guidance p.7)

Senior DoD leadership is committed to a future where its use of energy is more sustainable, secure, and affordable. A key component of DoD's energy program is the increased use of renewable energy. Arizona plays a significant role in DoD meeting its federal mandates and achieving energy security. TEP's proposed "Track and Record" may negatively impact the DoD's ability to achieve energy security and meet renewable energy mandates and goals in Arizona.

The DoD requests that you consider these comments in your review of TEP's application for 2013 REST. My point of contact for this issue is Mr. Park Haney, at park.haney@us.army.mil or 303-844-0957.

C. L. STATHOS
By direction

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OPEN MEETING AGENDA ITEM

Department of Veterans Affairs
Office of Asset Enterprise Management
810 Vermont Ave., N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20420

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Certified Mail-Return Receipt Requested

November 26, 2012 DUCKET CONTROL

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State of Arizona Corporation Commission 1200 West Washington Street Room 108 Phoenix, Arizona 85007

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RE: Docket No. E-01933A-12-0296, Matter Of The Tucson Electric Power Company Application For Approval Of its 2013 Renewable Energy Standard Tariff Implementation Plan

Dear Chairman Pierce and Commissioners:

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) respectfully requests that the Arizona Corporation Commission (ACC) deny and consider alternatives to the Tucson Electric Power (TEP) "Track and Record" solution set out in their October 18, 2012 Utilities Staff Comments supplementing TEP's July 3, 2012 Application For Approval of its 2013 Renewable Energy Standard and Tariff Implementation Plan ("the Plan").

As the Plan stands, it would interfere with VA's ability to sell or claim solar generation from VA's facilities in Tucson and other portions of TEP's service area in Arizona. From VA's perspective, this Plan would threaten the viability of the Renewable Energy Certificate (REC) system and would set a dangerous precedent if approved. VA's current renewable energy investments in Arizona would be devalued, and the policy would deter future VA renewable energy investments in the State of Arizona.

VA has made significant investments in VA solar projects in Arizona to meet Federal renewable energy requirements and standards, as set forth in legislation and Presidential executive orders. Under Executive Order 13423, Federal facilities are required to own renewable energy attributes to meet renewable energy and greenhouse gas goals. With the "Track and Record" proposal, TEP would have the ability to count any of VA's generated RECs towards TEP's own renewable energy generation requirements. However, pursuant to the Department of Energy's Renewable Energy Requirement

Guidance for EPACT 2005 and Executive Order 13423, VA cannot retain credit for the RECs generated by VA facilities if they are counted towards another entity's renewable energy requirements. Therefore the duplicate accounting of these RECs contemplated by TEP's "Track and Record" solution would preempt VA's ability to utilize the credits for meeting Federal mandates, allowing TEP to effectively deprive VA of VA's legitimately created RECs.

VA's solar projects and other energy projects are essential to meet Federal renewable energy policy mandates while furthering the VA mission of caring for Veterans, and saving taxpayer dollars that can be used in other aspects of VA operations. If TEP is allowed to record the REC credits from VA projects, it will effectively deny VA the ability to count these credits towards VA's own renewable energy goals.

In lieu of the current "Track and Record" proposal, VA suggests that TEP purchase the RECs needed to comply with its requirements at auction on the open market. This would ensure appropriate compensation to the current REC owner and uphold the viability of the REC system, while appropriately incentivizing further investment in renewable energy generation in the utility's service territory.

VA requests that the ACC deny approval of the "Track and Record" solution, and instead consider other options.

Thank you for your consideration of VA's request.

Sincerely

Cynthia J. Córdoval

Director, Green Management Program

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

810 Vermont Ave., NW Washington, DC 20420 cynthia.cordova@va.gov

CC:

Director Phoenix VA Health Care System 650 E. Indian School Road Phoenix, AZ 85012

Page 3

Director Northern Arizona VA Health Care System 500 North Highway 89 Prescott, AZ 86313

Director Southern Arizona VA Health Care System 3601 South 6th Avenue Tucson, AZ 85723

SERVICE LIST 1 2 The original and thirteen (13) copies 3 of the foregoing is being transmitted 4 Federal Express overnight delivery 5 this 29th day of January 2013 to be received and filed on the 30th day 6 7 of January 2013 with: 8 9 **Docket Control Division** 10 Arizona Corporation Commission 11 1200 West Washington Street 12 Phoenix, Arizona 85007 13 A copy of same is being served by 14 e-mail or first class mail this same 15 date to: 16 17 Janice Alward, Chief Counsel Legal Division 18 Arizona Corporation Commission 19 1200 West Washington Street 20 Phoenix, Arizona 85007 21 jalward@azcc.gov 22 Steven M. Olea, Director 23 **Utilities Division** 24 Arizona Corporation Commission 25 1200 West Washington Street 26 Phoenix, Arizona 85007 27 solea@azcc.gov 28 Bradley S. Carroll 29 Tucson Electric Power Company 30 88 E. Broadway Blvd., MS HQE910 31 P.O. Box 711 32 Tucson, Arizona 85702 33 Attorney for Tucson Electric Power 34 bcarroll@tep.com 35 Kevin C. Higgins, Principal 36 Energy Strategies, LLC 37 215 South State Street 38 Suite 200 39 Salt Lake City, Utah 84111

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and AECC 1 KHiggins@Energystrat.com 2 3 C. Webb Crockett Patrick J. Black 4 FENNEMORE CRAIG, P.C. 5 3003 North Central Avenue 6 **Suite 2600** 7 Phoenix, Arizona 850 12-29 13 8 Attorneys for Freeport-McMoRan 9 and AECC 10 wcrockett@fclaw.com 11 pblack@fclaw.com 12 Court S. Rich 13 ROSE LAW GROUP, PC 14 6613 N. Scottsdale Road, Suite 200 15 Scottsdale, AZ 85250 16 Attorney for Solar Energy Industries 17 Association (SEIA) 18 crich@roselawaroup.com 19 Michael L. Neary 20 **Executive Director** 21 Arizona Solar Energy Industries Association 22 23 (AriSEIA) 111 W. Renee Dr. 24 Phoenix, AZ 85027 25 mneary@arizonasolarindustry.org 26 Kevin Koch 27 P.O. Box 42103 28 Tucson, AZ 85733 29 30 31 32 33 34

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